

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated August 20, 2009, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed..

Summary of the Office Action

In the Office Action, claims 1, 6, 11, 12, 18, 19 and 21~23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over United States Patent No. 6,295,105 to Lee et al. (hereinafter “Lee et al.”).

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of United States Patent Publication No. 2003/0223020 to Lee (hereinafter “Lee”).

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. and Lee in view of United States Patent No. 4,958,911 to Beiswenger (hereinafter “Beiswenger”).

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al., Lee and Beiswenger in view of Japanese Patent No. 2001-338512 to Shiotani (hereinafter “Shiotani”).

Claims 7 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of United States Patent Publication No. 2003/0053008 to Nakano (hereinafter “Nakano”).

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. and Lee in view of United States Patent Publication No. 2002/0167626 to Matsuda (hereinafter “Matsuda”).

Claims 9 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Beiswenger.

Claims 14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Matsuda.

Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Shiotani.

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

With this response, claims 1, 4, 5, 11, 17 and 18 have been amended, and claims 21-23 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-9, 11-15 and 17-20 are currently pending in this application.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 6, 11, 12, 18, 19 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Lee. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. and Lee in view of Beiswenger. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al., Lee and Beiswenger in view of Shiotani. Claims 7 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Nakano. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. and Lee in view of Matsuda. Claims 9 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Beiswenger. Claims 14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Matsuda. Claim 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee et al. in view of Shiotani.

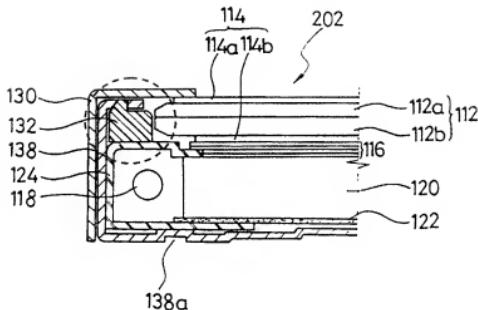
Reconsideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 is allowable at least in that this claim recites a combination of elements, including, for example, “at least one optical sheet positioned along an upper surface of the light guide plate and overlapping an end portion of the reflection sheet by an overlap amount (B), wherein the end portion of the bottom cover is positioned to leave a predetermined interval (A) from the light guide plate and the optical sheet to simplify assembly of the light guide plate and the end portion of the reflection sheet overlaps a portion of the light guide plate by the overlap amount (B) and wherein the end portion of the bottom cover substantially contacts all the outer side of the reflection sheet except for a portion of the predetermined interval (A) and an overlapping portion with the overlap amount (B).” The cited references including Lee et al. do not teach or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention.

On the contrary, Lee et al. discloses a back cover 138 disposed surrounding the mold frame 132, the lamp cover 124, and the reflector plate 122.

For convenience, figure 9 of Lee et al. is reproduced and annotated below.

FIG. 9



Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable over Lee et al.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 2 and 4-9 and reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 2 and 4-9 are allowable at least by virtue of the fact that they depend from claim 1, which is allowable.

Similarly, claim 11 is allowable at least in that this claim recites a combination of elements, including, for example, "a bottom cover extending from a rear side of the reflection plate to an outer side of the reflection sheet such that an end portion of the bottom cover extends to the outer side of the reflection sheet substantially following a contour of the reflection sheet to substantially surround and encase the reflection sheet and to support and affix the reflection sheet, wherein the end portion of the bottom cover is positioned to leave a predetermined interval (A) from the light guide plate and the end portion of the reflection sheet overlaps a portion of the light guide plate by the overlap amount (B) and wherein the end portion of the bottom cover

substantially contacts all the outer side of the reflection sheet except for a portion of the predetermined interval (A) and an overlapping portion with the overlap amount (B).” The cited references including Lee et al. do not teach or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention.

As stated above, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 11 is allowable over Lee et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 12-15 and 17 and reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 12-15 and 17 are allowable at least by virtue of the fact that they depend from claim 11, which is allowable.

Moreover, claim 18 is allowable at least in that this claim recites a combination of elements, including, for example, “a bottom cover along a rear side of the reflection plate having an end portion with a shape that substantially follows a contour of the reflection sheet to substantially surround and encase the reflection sheet and to support and affix the reflection sheet, wherein the end portion of the bottom cover is positioned to leave a predetermined interval (A) from the light guide plate and the end portion of the reflection sheet overlaps a portion of the light guide plate by the overlap amount (B) and wherein the end portion of the bottom cover substantially contacts all the outer side of the reflection sheet except for a portion of the predetermined interval (A) and an overlapping portion with the overlap amount (B).” The cited references including Lee et al. do not teach or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention.

As stated above, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 18 is allowable over Lee et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 19-20 and reconsideration is respectfully

requested. Claims 19-20 are allowable at least by virtue of the fact that they depend from claim 18, which is allowable.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments, reconsideration and the timely allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such as an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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